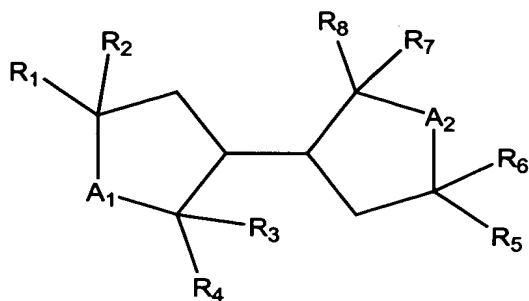


What is claimed is:

1. A cosmetic preparation comprising a compound of the formula (I):



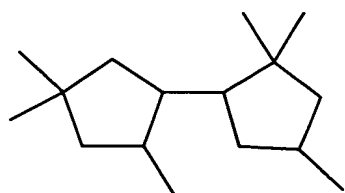
(I)

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wherein each of R₁-R₁₂ is independently hydrogen or a linear C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group
each of A₁ and A₂ is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom wherein A₁ is substituted by
R₉ and R₁₀ and A₂ is substituted by R₁₁ and R₁₂; and wherein at least one of
R₁-R₁₂ is a linear alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

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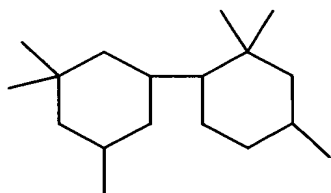
2. The cosmetic preparation of claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I
is a hexamethyl dicyclopentane of the formula (III):



(III).

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3. The cosmetic preparation of claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I
is a hexamethyl dicyclohexane of the formula (IV):

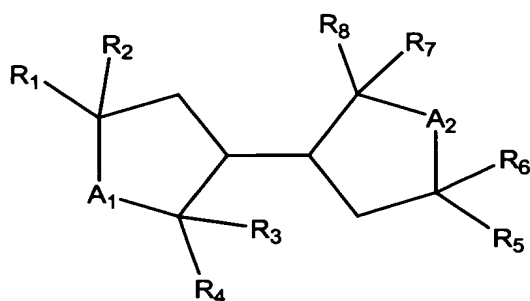


(IV).

4. The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) in the composition is from 0.1% to 50% by weight.

5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) in the composition is from 0.1% to 30% by weight.

6. A compound of the formula (I):

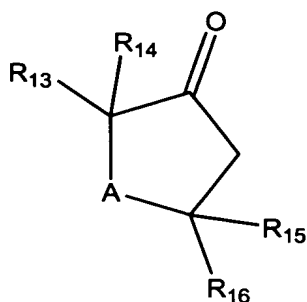


(I)

wherein each of R₁-R₁₂ is independently hydrogen or a linear C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group
each of A₁ and A₂ is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom wherein A₁ is substituted by
R₉ and R₁₀ and A₂ is substituted by R₁₁ and R₁₂; and wherein at least one of
R₁-R₁₂ is a linear alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

7. The compound of claim 6 wherein each of the ring structures is a cyclopentane ring or a cyclohexane ring.

8. A process for producing a compound of claim 6 comprising the steps of: (a) reacting a cycloalkanone of the formula (II):



(II)

- 5 wherein each of R₁₃-R₁₈ is independently hydrogen or a linear C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group; A is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom substituted by R₁₇ and R₁₈ with a base to form an aldol condensation product; (b) forming a neutralised product by contacting the aldol condensation with acid; (3) hydrogenating the neutralised product.

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9. The process of claim 8 wherein the cycloalkanone is 2,2,4-trimethylcyclopentanone or 2,2,4-trimethylcyclohexanone.

10. An emollient composition comprised of a compound of claim 8.

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11. A lubricant composition comprised of a compound of claim 8.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprised of a compound of claim 8.